

Hello everyone I hope your day is going well.

There are work group/task force members using their position to lobby, strong arm and manipulate their personal agenda, (and agenda of the interest group they aligned with) to force themselves to the top of the list for social equity licenses(quoted by them). That appears to be a serious conflict in interest. Why would folks be put on and remain on a work group or task force and be allowed to consistently push their personal issues, and try to suppress, destroy, replace the language of E2SHB 2870 for their personal gain? Let's be clear, they do not represent the community that 2870 outlines. Their motive and objective is to sabotage the bill, insert their position for themselves and a few folks they aligned with. The community would like to know why they are on the work group/task force and why their conduct is allowed.

The last task force meeting I patiently waited for my time to speak and when my name was called I was speaking on the importance of making sure we continue to recognize Bill 2870's focus and I was rudely interrupted by a work group member. He accused me of attacking him because I said this bill is designed for folks that have resided in a disproportionately impacted area and or were arrested from the war on drugs (2870). When he rudely interrupted me the task force administrators muted me and silenced my voice and allowed him to continue his rude interruption and his rant and rage about how medical marijuana dispensary owners should get the licenses and be in front of the folks that were targeted by the war on drugs. He stated that previous medical marijuana owners are pioneers of the marijuana business. SMH

Folks in the community have been arrested and targeted for decades. Medical Marijuana owners started at approximately 2005. The reason Medical and recreational Marijuana exist is because of the people that got arrested and targeted from the war on drugs. They paid the Ultimate price and are still paying today.

The task force/workgroup members are in place to lead the path to develop policy centered around 2870, not to manipulate mafia style and push their personal agendas.

I will say there are great people on the task force that are listening to Community recommendations and concerns and inserting them in the task force recommendations. We appreciate that.

I have made it my mission to educate folks in the community about 2870 and what I found is that the community knows nothing about it. The previous outreach to inform the community (that has been affected by the war on drugs) was very sparse. There appears to have been a few initial meetings but after that the outreach has been literally none. The only folks that were aware are the folks that have been tracking marijuana. There has been zero mass outreach to the community that has been affected by the war on drugs. I will do everything in my power to continue to get the word out to the real community that deserves this opportunity. I have spoken to over 200 people and we're having weekly meetings to make sure the community is educated about the opportunity that's in place for them. The group is rapidly growing.

I pray and urge everyone to please do the right thing. With everyone's continued genuine effort and courage, the REAL definition of social equity and equality can happen. We have faith. Let's set a real example of what social equity and equality is for our community and the country.

Thank you and God Bless

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